

Workshop on AFV Market and Infrastructure Development

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will conduct a public workshop on infrastructure issues related to creating a sustainable market for alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). The workshop is free of charge, and will provide a forum for looking at what barriers exist that limit the sales of AFVs and how those barriers can be removed. The date and location of the workshop will be May 10, 2000, in San Diego, and will be held at the end of the Clean Cities Conference, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For all the air quality and other benefits that AFVs represent, they won't provide those benefits if owners can't find the alternative fuel to make it run. In fact, people are likely not to purchase them at all. Developing the alternative fuel infrastructure necessary for AFVs is an important part in developing a sustainable market.

EPA believes that solutions to infrastructure development needs can be found by a variety of stakeholders working together. At this workshop, EPA's intent is to gather other Administration officials, state officials (both environmental and purchasing agent), auto and fuel industry representatives, environmentalists, and other interested parties.

The key goals of the workshop are twofold:

- To provide a forum for examining the barriers to developing an alternative fuel infrastructure and how they limit the sales of AFVs.
- To begin the process of defining "next steps" that public and private sector parties can exercise in overcoming the barriers to developing an alternative fuels infrastructure.

Issues to be explored include:

- What sectors of vehicles should be targeted for an alternative fuels infrastructure (i.e., heavy-duty vs light-duty)?
- What will be the effect of Tier 2 standards on alternative fuel vehicles?
- What market incentives and legislative actions have worked well and are "transferable"?

Additionally, EPA is interested in learning what programs have been successful in promoting the use of alternative fuel vehicles and in stimulating the development of an alternative fuels infrastructure.

If you are interested in attending, please download or print the registration form which can be found at this web-site.

For further information contact Barry Garelick at (202) 564-9028 (garelick.barry@epa.gov) or Sally Newstead at (734) 214-4474 (newstead.sally@epa.gov).